

Message

From: Marion Herz [Herz.MarionLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]
Sent: 6/15/2010 5:06:52 PM
To: Al Havinga [Havinga.ALNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Richard Colbert [Colbert.RichardLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Knopes, Christopher [Knopes.Christopher@epa.gov]; Dombrowski, John [Dombrowski.John@epa.gov]; Deborah Hanlon/DC/USEPA/US@EPA; Robbi Farrell [Farrell.RobbiLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; CN=Kenneth Gigliello/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA; Washington, Lorna [Washington.Lorna@epa.gov]; Lucy Reed [Reed.LucyLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Mike Walker [Walker.MikeLNDU@usepa.onmicrosoft.com]; Jim Pendergast [Pendergast.Jim@epa.gov]; Duffy, Rick [Duffy.Rick@epa.gov]; Hindin, David [Hindin.David@epa.gov]
Subject: Fw: Research News Release (HQ): EPA Places Four IRIS Assessments on Hold Pending Review

See Matt's email below and let me know if you have anything to report.

Thanks,
Marion

----- Forwarded by Marion Herz/DC/USEPA/US on 06/15/2010 01:05 PM -----

From: Lisa Lund/DC/USEPA/US
To: Marion Herz/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 06/15/2010 12:23 PM
Fw: Research News Release (HQ): EPA Places Four IRIS Assessments on Hold Pending Review
Subject:

please send to Division Directors

----- Forwarded by Lisa Lund/DC/USEPA/US on 06/15/2010 12:23 PM -----

From: Matt Bogoshian/DC/USEPA/US
To: Lisa Lund/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Dave Kling/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Adam Kushner/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Lee/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Fred Burnside/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Mark Badalamente/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Catherine McCabe/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Giles-AA/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 06/15/2010 10:22 AM
Fw: Research News Release (HQ): EPA Places Four IRIS Assessments on Hold Pending Review
Subject:

Office Directors,

I am passing along the below press release so you are aware of facts known regarding concern with the described assessments.

ORD AA Paul Anastas will be available today from 2:00 to 2:30 in room 41213 RRB to discuss what ORD is doing with regard to the Ramazzini Institute. Please let me know if this issue will impact any of your work and if you would like to ask any questions of ORD.

Thanks,

Matt

Matt Bogoshian
Deputy Assistant Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
202-564-2440

—— Forwarded by Matt Bogoshian/DC/USEPA/US on 06/15/2010 10:12 AM ——

From: Lek Kadeli/DC/USEPA/US
To: Matt Bogoshian/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 06/15/2010 08:45 AM
Subject: Fw: Research News Release (HQ): EPA Places Four IRIS Assessments on Hold Pending Review

Fyi -

From: "U.S. EPA" [usaepa@govdelivery.com]

Sent: 06/15/2010 07:42 AM EST

To: Lek Kadeli

Subject: Research News Release (HQ): EPA Places Four IRIS Assessments on Hold Pending Review

CONTACT:

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202-564-3191
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2010

EPA Places Four IRIS Assessments on Hold Pending Review

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that it is holding four of its ongoing IRIS (Integrated Risk Information System) assessments pending a review of some of the underlying studies used in the assessments. EPA conducts IRIS assessments to determine the impact of specific chemicals on human health.

EPA is holding these assessments due to a report from the National Toxicology Program (NTP) that outlines a recent review of a research study completed by the Ramazzini Institute, a lab in Italy that conducts animal testing to evaluate the

potential cancer-causing effects of chemicals. The report discusses findings from a recent assessment by NTP pathologists of an animal study on methanol. NTP's report recommends that further pathology reviews be carried out to resolve differences of opinion between NTP scientists and the Ramazzini Institute in the diagnoses of certain cancers reported in the study.

Out of an abundance of caution and to ensure the agency's chemical assessments are grounded in the soundest possible science, EPA undertook a thorough review of all ongoing and previous chemical assessments to determine which, if any, relied substantially on cancer testing from the Ramazzini Institute.

EPA found six assessments that significantly rely on data from Ramazzini cancer studies:

- **Assessments currently in progress:** EPA found four ongoing chemical assessments – on methanol, MTBE, ETBE and acrylonitrile – that rely significantly on cancer data from the Ramazzini Institute. EPA has placed those assessments on hold and will determine whether the questions raised by NTP will require EPA to revise the assessments or take additional action to verify the data used in these assessments. EPA also postponed an August 23 meeting of the agency's Science Advisory Board, which had been previously scheduled to review the draft methanol assessment.
- **Previously completed assessments:** Out of more than 540 completed assessments posted on the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS), EPA identified two – Vinyl Chloride and 1,1- Dichloroethylene – that relied substantially on findings from Ramazzini Institute cancer studies. EPA is reviewing these assessments as well to determine what action is needed to assure their scientific integrity.

EPA will continue its review to determine if any other assessments are significantly impacted.

R211

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